IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Luciano, Jr. et al. Examiner: Jasson H. Yoo

Application No.: 09/788,162 **Group Art Unit:** 3714

Filing Date: February 15, 2001 Confirmation No. 4032

Office Action Date: January 9, 2008 Docket No. 83336.1540

Title: HIGH GRANULARITY Customer No. 66880

PROMOTION-BASED AWARDS AND USE

IN GAMING ENVIRONMENTS

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT / REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION

This amendment is timely filed in response to the Office action mailed January 9, 2008.

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Claims 153-156, 158-166, and 168-171 are pending in the present application. Claims 157 and 167 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 153-171 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 153-155, 157-165 and 167-171 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,227,972) in view of Kamille (U.S. Patent No. 5,931,467). Claims 156 and 166 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Walker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,227,972) in view of Kamille (U.S. Patent No. 5,931,467) as applied to claims 153 and 162 above, and further in view of Walker et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,364,765). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejected claims.